

prajna



NAIJIN-GEJIN

I have always wondered if those who build Buddhist temples are consciously aware of just how near to perfection their creations are. In Japanese Buddhism there is little sense of the transcendently distant, but rather a broad and deep sense of connection. The sense and direction is the opposite of Christianity which is a vertical relationship of man below to God above. Hence the great cathedrals of Christianity are vertically soaring monuments reaching out to God above. Inside and out, all lines are vertical, with the light coming from without and above pouring in through stain glass windows. Christian music, along with that perfect Christian instrument the organ, reinforces this verticality with its soaring, ascending music, carrying one out of himself to a greater reality. The roof is unseen and of minor importance in this religious architecture.

In sharp contrast to this, traditional temple architecture in Japan is strongly horizontal. The walls of the temple are of minor importance - it is the roof and the beauty of its downward slope that is of importance. How it moves down and outward, like a great tree spreading its roots and connecting with the earth that is of utmost importance. Connection with the earth in immovable stability, like a great mountain is the ideal. It is no accident that the head temple of any Buddhist sect is referred to as the "Honzan" or "main or central *mountain*". The Buddhist begins from within, contemplating and meditating on

what the self is - and in doing so discovers that the self is defined by its relation and connection to everything else - from the head moving down to the Kokoro and out to all others as not really "other".

This eternal connection is expressed in that perfect Buddhist instrument, the human voice chanting - not singing, not pitch perfect, but each voice as it is entering into each other voice in a kind of cosmic babble. It seems to have no beginning and no end, like a river rising and falling over each high point and depression, swelling and thinning with each new entering and exiting stream, demanding nothing of its parts except that they be natural instead of forced and normal.

In the Hondo or "main hall" of the temple, the Naijin or "inner encampment" is placed the Buddha Amida in statue, picture or Nembutsu form and adorned in gold, red and black lacquered palaces, animals, incense burners, candlesticks, flowers, food offering stands, lamps, etc. in psychedelic splendor. The Gejin or "outer encampment" is by comparison a rather practical, efficient, and drab arrangement of tatami mats, or in America an even more rigid arrangement of pews. Our journey through this world is really a nomadic one, going from encampment to encampment in search of protection and comfort. In our religious journey, it is a matter of going from our outer encampment of protective walls and images, self-delusions, pride,

and lust for power, to the utterly "useless" and utterly beautiful real world of the "inner encampment", of savoring the "hidden splendor" which is our authentic self. But like all encampments, the "inner encampment" is a place we visit and move on, and as we inevitably move on, the Shoji screens return to cover up that hidden splendor until we return to it again. The perverse enticements of the "outer encampment" take up the major portions of our life - but how reassuring to realize that Amida awaits with our "hidden splendor" like an unconditionally loving parent (Oyasama, the more common name for Amida Buddha), showing us our connection to everything else and anchoring us to the Great Earth (Daichi) eternal, beyond time and space.

Namoamidabutsu, I take refuge in the Buddha beyond time and space

Rev. Mas

TEMPLE UPDATE OCTOBER

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

***Family Service & Eshinni-ko/Kakushinni/BWA Memorial Service on October 21st**

***Howakai** – Contact JoAnn Komai or Ted Akahori for details on this study group.

***Religious Committee** – Contact Eugene Murakami or Rev. Mas if you are interested.

ORGANIZATIONS

***BWA/Fujinkai** – Look for BWA Sushi workshop coming this fall. BWA Ian Ryoko to San Luis Obispo, September 28-30.

***Dharma School Schedule – October 7th & October 28th (Day of the Gaki).** November 4th & 25th, December 2nd & 16th. **Sangha Teen News:** A special performance and workshop by *Cold Tofu* is being scheduled in October or November. For more information, please contact Advisor Miki Fujimoto at nfujimoto@yahoo.com.

***Book Club** – For book group readers on **October 28th** at 11:30am, we plan to continue the conversation about the Dalai Lama. Please buy or borrow the book, AN OPEN HEART – Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life by the Dalai Lama. An additional article may be distributed beforehand by Terry or Carol for discussion. Bring other titles for consideration. For the following meeting in December or January, we have ordered CROOKED CUCUMBER—The Life and Zen Teaching of Shunryu Suzuki by David Chadwick. Contact Mike to pay for and get your copy. New members and suggested readings

are welcomed anytime. For more info, contact Lilly & Mike Yanagita at (818) 956-1070 or email n7willow@gmail.com.

***Hongwanji Place Bookstore** – Now housed at Senshin! Hours: Wednesday thru Saturday, 10am to 3pm; Sunday, 11:30am to 2pm. www.hongwanjiplace@yahoo.com. Sponsored by BCA Southern District Dharma School Teachers' League.

FUNDRAISING

***Football Parking** – Football season is here! Parking Lot duty this month is **October 20th** (Colorado).

***Obon Raffle** – This a belated **Thank You** to Don Akamine for his tireless work for another successful raffle this year!

***Fundraising Committee** – If you have ideas, please contact Chris Aihara or James Okazaki.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Facilities/Maintenance** – You may notice that more of the plants, trees and shrubs are looking good! Thanks again to Dennis Yamashiro, and his crew Andrew and Eric, who have been regularly maintaining a sharp and neat look.

***Movie Nite & Potluck** – Call the Office for details. Suggestions are welcomed.

***Otoki Cookbook** – Only a few remain! Proceeds go to the Senshinji Building Fund. Come to the office or see Wendy to get the cookbook or contact Hongwanji Place Bookstore c/o Wilbur (310) 398-9558 for orders to be mailed.

FLOWER DONATIONS

Barbara Tanezaki
Sumiko Hiramoto
Nobuko Tanaka
Yo Takeuchi
Anonymous
Asa/Bernice Wakinaka
Yoneko Okayama
Kim Kunitake
Yoko Nishikawa
Misao Matsuda
Kiyo Yoneda
Anonymous

ONE OF MY FAVORITES

One Of My Favorites: Our next office display exhibit will be a favorite object, art work, etc. of Sangha members. If you would like to display a favorite for a 3~4 month period. Please bring your favorite object with an explanation to Rev. Kodani by October 1st.

SENSHIN CAR DONATION

If you would like to donate a car, truck or any vehicle, to Senshin, please contact Wilbur Takashima at (310) 398-9558 or Jean Minami at 323 938-0048.

POTLUCK & MOVIE NITE

Saturday, October 27th
6:30pm - Pot Luck
7:30pm - Movie "Zatoichi"??

MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE - OCTOBER SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2012 9:30AM

SESHU (OBSERVANT)	DECEASED'S RELATION TO OBSERVANT	DECEASED
AKAHORI, TED	MOTHER	AKAHORI, UMEJI
FUJIKAWA, DAVID	GRANDMOTHER	IWAMI, UTA
FUJIKAWA, DAVID	GRANDMOTHER-IN-LAW	FUJIKAWA, ISE
FUJIMOTO, FUMIYE	BROTHER	KISAKI, MAMORU
FUJIMOTO, FUMIE	SISTER	OTANI, HISAKO
FUJIMOTO, TAKUYA	FATHER	FUJIMOTO, HIDEO
HASHIMOTO, MIWAKO	HUSBAND	HASHIMOTO, HENRY
IKEGAMI, SUMIKO	HUSBAND	IKEGAMI, SHIGETO
ISHIZUKA, KAREN	FATHER	ISHIZUKA, TADASHI, GEORGE
KIGUCHI, MARGIE	GRANDMOTHER	MATSUI, SOME
KITAGAWA, LINDA	MOTHER	MATSUURA, MARY
KIYOHARA, ISAO	MOTHER	KIYOHARA, CHIYEKO
KONO, KEIKO	MOTHER	KONO, HARUYO
KURAMOTO, KATHY	FATHER-IN-LAW	KURAMOTO, TOYOMI
KURAMOTO, THOMAS	FATHER	KURAMOTO, TOYOMI
MATSUMURA, ISAMU	WIFE	MATSUMURA, LAURA
NAKAWATASE, SACHIKO	MOTHER-IN-LAW	NAKAWATASE, KISE
NAKASHIMA, JEAN	HUSBAND	NAKASHIMA, HOWARD
NISHISAKA, YURIKO	BROTHER	SANADA, MASAMI
OGAWA, JERRY	AUNT	MATSUMOTO, MIWAKO
SAKAKURA, MICHIKO	FATHER	SAKAKURA, MOTOJI
SAKAKURA, MICHIKO	HUSBAND	SAKAKURA, JOE
SUGITA, MARIE	HUSBAND	SUGITA, YOSHIFUMI
TAKASHIMA, WILBUR	GRANDFATHER	TAKASHIMA, KATSUE
TAKEMOTO, CHIYOKO	SISTER	ETOW, KIKUE
TAKEUCHI, YOSHIKO	HUSBAND	TAKEUCHI, SAM
TANAKA, NOBUKO	SISTER	HASEGAWA, TSUYAKO
YAMASHITA, BETTY	GRANDFATHER	ITO, YETSUSABURO
YOSHIDA, MIYEKO	MOTHER	AIZAWA, UME

SUNDAY OCT. 21

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012
9:30am
Eshinni-ko/Kakushin-ni/BWA
Memorial Service

10:30am
Guest Speaker (Japanese)
Rev. George Matsubayashi,
BCA Minister Emeritus

11:30am
Otoki - Senshin BWA (mochi)

CLASSES

GAGAKU (Orchestral)
1st & 3rd WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH - 7:30PM

BUGAKU (Dance)
2nd & 3rd WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH - 7:30PM

USC KAZAN TAIKO
Thursdays - 8:00PM

KINNARA TAIKO
THURSDAYS - 8:00PM

TOBAN LISTS OCTOBER

Onaijin Flower Arrangement
Tōban:
6th - Mat Uyeno/Doris/Al Shigaki
13th - Lynn Akamine/Miki
Fujimoto
20th - Susie Usui/Ellen Shimohara
27th - Sheri Lovall/Debbie
Hiramoto

Hondō Tōban: Harry Sawada/
Nell Sawada/Keith Sawada

DANA AUGUST

Listed below are donations handled by the Regular Treasurer.

special = donation received with no specific reason given.

orei = donation for use of temple facilities, equipment, etc.

Nokotsudo = donation by families who have family cremains in the Nokotsudo (columbarium)

The Regular Treasurer is required to send receipts for donations \$250.00 and over. Receipts for all other donations will not be sent unless requested by the donor. Membership dues are \$184.00 per individual (\$354.00 per couple). The dues include BCA membership fees. Members 80 years of age and over need not pay temple dues but may pay \$94.00 for BCA dues which includes the Wheel of Dharma newsletter.

Date	Donor	Occasion for Donation
8/2/12	Kenneth Hatai Celia Huey Tina Chilombo Craig Ichinose	Special donation Special donation Funeral for Miyagi Chilombo 1 st cycle memorial for Austin Akira Ichinose
8/12/12	Nanka Shiga Club	Use of Social Hall
8/14/12	Vickie Wakinaka Asa & Bernice Wakinaka Asa & Bernice Wakinaka	7 th cycle memorial for Fred and Esther Wakinaka 7 th cycle memorial for Fred Wakinaka 1 st cycle memorial for Lester Wakinaka
8/19/12	Kuramaoto Family Nagatani Family Nagatani Family Nagatani Family Jean Nakashima Masaye Nakagawa Eleanor Yamaguchi Laura Yamaguchi, Damian Whitney Craig & Iris, Riley Yamaguchi Nancy, Eileen Kodama Jean Nakashima Mr/Mrs Yuki Fujita & Family	Funeral for Katherine Kuramoto Funeral for John Nagatani 49 th day memorial for Diane Nagatani Nokotsudo Nokotsudo Special donation 7 th cycle memorial for Emiko Shigeyasu 7 th cycle memorial for Emiko Shigeyasu 7 th cycle memorial for Emiko Shigeyasu 7 th cycle memorial for Emiko Shigeyasu 7 th cycle memorial for Emiko Shigeyasu 7 th cycle memorial for Emiko Shigeyasu
8/26/12	SDDSTL Hongwanji Place Bookstore Cynthia Lee Katsumi & Mary Hokoda Maryann Ito Arita Family Hiroshi & Keiko Ogawa	Orei Special memorial for Ted & Sue Ishikawa Thank you for sending "Prajna" Memorial service for Topshiye Ito Burial service for Yoshi Arita Ofuse donation
8/31/12	Kenneth Hatai	Special donation

SENSHIN-JI BUILDING/OGAWA TRUST FUNDS

As reported last month, the installation of the three new *Hondo* doors was completed. Unfortunately, the three doors used different keys, so a locksmith was called out to re-key two of the doors so that they used the same key as the front double doors. In addition, since the new locks were completely different from the original 50-year old locks on the remaining *Hondo* doors, we decided to have those remaining locks modified with new cylinders that could also use the same key as for the new locks. Now Rev. Mas needs to carry only one key for access to any of the *Hondo*'s seven doors.

The work to replace the second-story windows of the Education Building began on September 10th. The removal of the existing windows and the installation of the new ones were accomplished during the week that followed. The next two weeks involved the patching and repair of the stucco, the sealing of the surface and the painting to match the existing color. By the time you read this, work on the Education Building should finally be completed.

As noted previously, we will now turn our attention to the Social Hall. There are so many issues to consider as a part of the remodel of the Social Hall (as outlined last month), that we will likely take our time to evaluate and discuss the critical needs of that building. We shall keep you posted as the discussions ensue, and as the plans are developed. The kitchen and the restrooms will be the main focus of our remodeling plans. The involvement of the City of Los Angeles Building and Fire Departments will greatly influence our approach to this project.

If additional fundraising is determined to be necessary, we will attempt to provide an accurate estimate of the construction costs, using our experience with the Education Building as a guide.

Again, this planning process will take time considering the numerous issues that we will likely encounter. We had hoped to get a plan together and obtain appropriate estimates during the second half of this year, but that may prove to be too optimistic.

Still, we will set a goal to begin work on the Social Hall by early 2013, but the time frame will be flexible.

As always any contributions to the Building Fund will be earmarked towards these future improvements.

In Gassho,

Wilbur Takashima

DONATIONS RECEIVED BY SENSHIN-JI BUILDING FUND

AUGUST:

Shimada, Saburo and Satsuki*
Takeuchi, Yoshiko & Sharon

* In honor of their 60th
Wedding Anniversary



感謝録

特別寄附: 畑井ケネス, ヒュイセリア, 中川まさえ,	故永谷ダイアン四九日 永谷家族
葬儀: 故宮城チロンボ チロンボテイナ	故一之瀬あきら一回忌 一之瀬クレグ
故倉本キャサリン 倉本家族	故脇中レスター一回忌 脇中あさ/パニース
故永谷ジョン 永谷家族	故脇中フレッド七回忌 脇中あさ/パニース
埋葬法要 故有田よし 有田家族	故重安えみこ七回忌 山口エレナ, 山口ローラ, 山口ライリ
お礼: ソーシャルホール使用: 南加シガクラブ	ウイットニダミアン, 山口クレグ/アイリス, 中島ジーン
本願寺書店	故伊藤としえ追悼 伊藤マリアン
プラジュナ: ほこだかつみ/メリ	故石川テッド/スー追悼 リーシンシア
お布施 小川ひろし/けいこ	納骨堂: 永谷家族, 中島家族

十月の日程

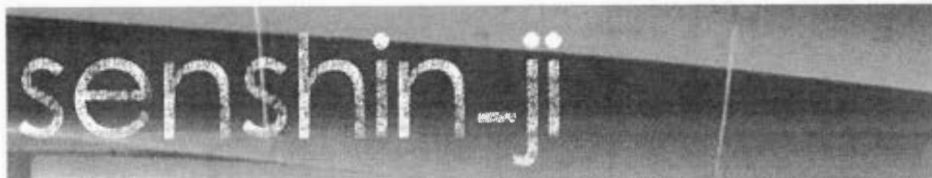
四日 (木)	午後七時半	理事会	
七日 (日)	午前九時半	祥月法要	
	午前十時半	日本語	多田覚英名誉開教使
		英語	小谷政雄師
		日用学校	
	午前十一時半	婦人会例会	
十三日 (土)		FBWA総会	サンホセ
十四日 (日)	午前九時半	家族礼拝	
	午前十時半	英語	小谷政雄師
二〇日 (土)	USCゲーム	駐車場ファンドレイズ	
二一日 (日)	午前九時半	家族礼拝/恵信尼/覚信尼講	
		婦人会会員法要	
	午前十時半	日本語	松林ジョージ名誉開教使
		英語	小谷政雄師
	午前十一時半	日曜学校	
二八日	九時半	家族礼拝	
	十時半	英語	小谷政雄師
		餓鬼の日	

九月供花: 種崎バーバラ, 平本すみこ, 田中のぶこ, 竹内よう, 脇中あさ/パニース, 岡山よねこ, 西川ようこ, 松田みさお, 匿名

内陣活け花当番: 六日:M.上野/D.A.志垣, 十三日:L.赤嶺/M.藤本, 二〇日:S.臼井/E.下原, 二七日:S.ロバル/D.平本

本堂当番: H.沢田/N.沢田/K.沢田

秋になりました、といっても、ロスでは紅葉もなく、ただ少し涼しくなただけです。雨が降るといいのですが。



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OCTOBER 2012 CALENDAR OF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Tōban: Junior YBA

Date	Day	Time	Service or Activity
4	Thu	7:30pm	Temple Board Meeting
7	Sun	9:30am 10:30am 10:30am 10:30am 11:30am	Monthly Memorial Service (Shotsuki Hōyō) Study Class – Rev. Kodani Japanese Sermon – Rev. Kakuyei Tada, BCA Minister Emeritus Dharma School BWA Fujinkai Reikai
13	Sat		FBWA Conference – San Jose
14	Sun	9:30am 10:30am	Family Service Study Class
20			USC Parking Fundraiser
21	Sun	9:30am 10:30am 10:30am 10:30am	Family Service/Eshinni-ko/Kakushin-ni/ BWA Memorial Service Jpn speaker – Rev. George Matsubayashi, BCA Minister Emeritus Study Class – Rev. Kodani Dharma School
28	Sun	9:30am 10:30am 10:30am	Family Service Study Class – Rev. Kodani Day of the Gaki